

LITTLE HULTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Health Report and Statistics

For Year Ending - -
December 31st, 1920.



J. H. MARSH, Medical Officer.
JAMES T. DAVIES, Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

ROBERT COOKE LIMITED,
PRINTERS AND BOOKBINDERS,
RUSSELL STREET WORKS,
FARNWORTH, NEAR BOLTON.

Medical Officer's Report.

Moorside,

Little Hulton,

Near Bolton,

July 22nd, 1921.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Little Hulton District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Twenty-Fourth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Little Hulton Urban District for the year 1920.

Area of District in Statute Acres	...	...	...	1699
Total Population of all ages (last Census)	...	...	...	8133
Estimate of Population received from Somerset House for Births and Deaths	...	...	...	8148
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	1739
Average Number of Persons per House	...	...	...	4.6

Chief Industries in the District—

Coal Mines.

Iron Works.

Cotton Mills (Spinning and Weaving).

Births registered during the year, were 199 (108 males 91 females), of which 193 (105 males 88 females) were legitimate and 6 (3 males 3 females) were illegitimate, equal to a rate of 24·4 per 1000 of the estimated population, as compared to 17·5 last year and a mean of 22·3 for the 10 years 1910 to 1919.

Deaths from all causes, number 86 (39 males 47 females), twenty-one less than last year, giving a rate of 10·5 per 1000 inhabitants as against 13·6 last year. It is satisfactory to record such a low rate and is a marked decrease on the mean of the ten years 1910-1919, viz., 13·7 per 1000, and compares most favourably with the death rate of England and Wales, viz., 12·4.

Increment of Life, viz., the excess of Births over Deaths, was 113 (69 males 44 females), an increase of 77 (47 males 30 females) as compared with last year.

Causes of Death :-

Enteric Fever	1
Measles	1
Diphtheria and Croup...	1
Influenza	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4
Tubercular Meningitis	2
Other Tubercular Diseases	1
Cancer	7
Meningitis	1
Heart Disease	10
Bronchitis	6
Pneumonia	5
Other Respiratory Diseases	2
Diarrhœa	3
Kidney Disease...	1
Parturition	1
Congenital Debility	7
Violence	6
Other Defined Diseases	24
Total...	86

Infant Mortality.—The deaths of Children under one year were 16 (9 males 7 females) corresponding to a rate of 80 per 1000 births. This rate, too, is satisfactory to note being well below last year's, which was 97, and the mean of the ten years 1910-1919, viz., 106.

Zymotic Mortality.—The seven principal diseases, viz.:—“Small Pox,” “Scarlet Fever,” “Measles,” “Whooping Cough,” “Enteric Fever,” “Diphtheria,” and “Diarrhœal Diseases,” accounted for six deaths (3 males 3 females), equivalent to a rate of 0·73 per 1000 population, as compared to 0·25 in 1919, and 1·40 the mean of the ten years 1910-1919. One death was due to Enteric Fever, one to Measles, one to Diphtheria, and three to Diarrhœal Diseases.

Respiratory Diseases caused thirteen deaths (7 males 6 females) sixteen less than last year, giving a rate of 1·59 per 1000 inhabitants.

Infectious Diseases:—

Hospital accommodation—Leigh Joint Fever Hospital, Astley, and Bolton Fever Hospital.

One hundred and thirty-two cases were notified, details of which are appended.

Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	11
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	18
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	74
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	2
Malaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	7
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	5
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	...	...	9

Total... 132

Increases during the year were—

Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	9
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	12
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	26
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	2
Malaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tuberculosis (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Chicken Pox (not notifiable last year)	...	...	...	...	...	9
Total...						66

Decreases during the year were—

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	5
Total...						7

Cases **removed** to Hospital—

Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	23
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total...						27

Notification of Births (Extension) Act.—Two Hundred and Nine notifications were received (113 males 96 females), of which eleven were still-born (3 males 8 females) and one illegitimate (male). Pamphlets on “The Feeding and Rearing of Infants” were posted by me to the parents.

Water Supply.—Source Bolton Corporation Waterworks, was abundant and satisfactory.

Dairies, Cowsheds, etc.—Fourteen Cowkeepers and Two Milk Purveyors are registered and have been periodically inspected. The regulations as to air space for each cow, etc., are enforced, viz., 600 cubic feet for each cow, habitually grazed, and 800 cubic feet otherwise. Few structural alterations have been made, and I regret to say, some of the delivery “turn-outs” are neither a credit to the owners or to the district.

Schools.—There are eight elementary Schools and all are still used (especially in the winter months), more or less for Social and other purposes, which must interfere with the thorough ventilation and cleanliness of the rooms. In some of the Schools the offices are not either satisfactory or adequate and I would advise that frequent and regular inspections are made of them.

House, Town Planning, etc.—Two schemes have been submitted, one for houses in Peel Lane, and the other for houses on your Engine Fold Estate. Both have been approved and work has commenced on 43 houses in Peel Lane. In the “Form of Survey of Housing Needs” submitted to you in October, a list of the unhealthy areas and dwellings in the District was laid before you, and suggestions for dealing with them.

Factories, Workshops, etc.—Forty-five inspections have been made during the year, and the defects found have been remedied. Appended is the list of registered Workshops.

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	12
Dry Cleaning	...	...	...	...	...	1
Foundry and Moulding Shop	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tripe Boiling	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cloggers and Shoemakers	...	...	...	...	...	7
Bottle Washing	...	...	...	...	...	1
Basket Making	...	...	...	...	...	1
Carpenters and Joiners	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dressmaking	...	...	...	...	...	3
Firelighters	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tailor	...	...	...	...	...	1
Minerals	...	...	...	...	...	3
						—
Total...						36

General Sanitary Matters.—Contractors have still the scavenging in hand and the work is not done satisfactorily. The following are details of the Sanitary Offices:—

Privy Middens	...	...	...	...	563
Closets attached to them	...	...	...	...	1096
Dry Ashpits (excluding Privy Middens)	...				407
Water Closets	...	...	...	...	538
Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	129
Portable receptacles for refuse	...	...	...	...	135
					—
Total...					2868

No Conversions have been made during the year, in a great measure due to scarcity of labour, high cost of materials, etc.

The SLAUGHTER HOUSES, seven in number, have been little used, and no complaint can be made as regard cleanliness.

The twelve BAKEHOUSES, most of them on a small scale, were found on inspection in satisfactory conditions.

The SEWAGE WORKS keep up their standard of efficiency.

The chief SANITARY requirements that I trust will have your attention are—

- (a) Sewering of the areas without drainage system.
- (b) Demolition or reconstruction of Insanitary areas, etc.
- (c) Conversions of Midden Ashpits, and scavenging under your own control.
- (d) Increased bedroom accommodation in the existing houses.

I am,

Yours obediently,

JOHN HOLT MARSH,

Medical Officer of Health.

Annual Report.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Council Offices, Little Hulton,
Near Bolton.

31st December, 1921.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Little Hulton Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The passing of time has again brought round the date for supervision of the work accomplished in the Sanitary Department of your Council.

The year 1920 has not been a year of real progress such as your Officer would have been glad to see, but has mostly been made up by carrying out the common task in so far as is applicable to sanitation generally.

The particulars in regard to houses have this year been strictly noted and recorded and are here set down for any future reference.

There are 1742 habitable houses in the district.

Eleven lock-up shops, six spinning and weaving mills, four foundries and ironworks of various kinds, and four workshops having machinery, including one laundry, and making 14 Factories within the meaning of the Act, seven slaughter houses (five registered and two licensed), and seven elementary schools.

There are 563 privy middens attached to 1096 houses.

There are 512 houses with water closets and 129 with waste water closets.

In some cases of water closets and waste water closets, seven or eight houses join at one dry ashpit, so that there are 407 dry ashpits and 135 ashbins for 646 houses.

There are 26 other premises of various kinds with a number of W.C. to each one but are only classed as one W.C. for the purpose of this enumeration.

The following tables will give some idea of what has been done during the past year in the Sanitary department:-

TABLE 1.

Number of nuisances discovered	...	...	...	239
Number of visits paid to premises including abatement of nuisances	...	...	...	2134
Number of houses visited for various reasons	...	...	...	217
Number of visits to infectious cases	...	...	...	121
Number of notices served	...	...	...	36
Agents interviewed	...	...	...	15
Number of rooms limewashed...	...	...	...	117
				2879

TABLE 2.

Defective W.C.'s...	...	...	...	...	...	16
„ Drains	...	...	...	...	...	42
„ Slop-pipes	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ Spouts...	...	...	...	...	...	59
„ Ashpits and Closets	...	...	...	...	...	31
„ Houses	...	...	...	...	...	83
„ Yards ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
						<hr/> 239

Only four Privies have been converted to water closets though there are many which require converting. Out of the 31 above reported, eight notices to convert are still outstanding, and the owners of the property representing the other 23 houses have done some temporary repairs which have for the time being abated the nuisances.

There have been 117 cases of infectious disease during the past year.

Contrary to usual January and February have been two of the heaviest months in the year as the following table will show:—

Month	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Consumption	Chicken Pox	Pneumonia	Puerperal Fever	Total
January	11	3	1	1	—	—	1	17
February	19	1	1	—	—	—	—	21
March	8	1	—	—	—	1	—	10
April	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
May	6	3	1	1	—	—	—	11
June	2	3	1	1	—	—	—	7
July	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	4
August	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	3
September	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	9
October.....	10	1	—	1	—	—	—	12
November.....	5	—	1	1	1	—	1	9
December	4	1	—	2	5	—	—	12
	74	18	8	8	6	1	2	117

The seven elementary schools in the area are sprayed with Formaldehyde at least once a month in addition to being sprayed at general holidays, or whenever the M.O.H. suggests an extra spraying, and the following tables show how the schools are affected.

The sanitary arrangements at Wharton School and St. John's Ellesmere, leave much to be desired.

Month	Wharton	Peel	St. Edmunds	St. John	Council (Worsley Road)	Other Schools	Prims.	Wesleyan	Total
January	2	1	—	1	3	—	—	1	8
February	—	4	—	2	2	—	2	2	12
March	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
April	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
May	4	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	7
June.....	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	4
July	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
August.....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
September	—	2	1	1	2	1	—	2	9
October	2	3	2	—	2	1	—	—	10
November	—	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	6
December	—	3	1	1	—	2	—	—	7
	8	27	4	5	16	4	3	5	72

No. of Children

attending.. 230 468 161 88 305 — 199 317

Infectious cases of school age number	...	72
„ under school age number	...	7
„ over school age number	...	38

		117

Area affected with infectious disease:—	No. of Cases.	No. of Houses.
Manchester Road East and Streets ...	28	668
Olegg's Lane ...	33	332
Worsley Road...	26	315
Manchester Road West and Streets...	30	427
	-----	-----
	117	1742

Factories.—There are six mills in which weaving or spinning takes place, two foundries, three extensive works, comprising foundry work generally, moulding, waggon building and various kinds of repairing constructing or building works, are carried on and each employing a fair number of hands. At each of these works the sanitary arrangements are most ample and seldom is there anything wrong with them, only in one case has it been necessary to complain and that was owing to the privacy of the W.C.'s provided for the use of females being allowed to become defective. It was quickly put right.

Offensive Trades are not carried on in this district, even the Tripe boiling premises have been closed for some considerable time.

Smoke Observations are taken, but owing to the appliances in use in the various mills, etc., being up to date and kept in order coupled with a time limit of exceptional liberality, viz., ten minutes to the hour, no cause for complaint has ever arisen.

I trust this year 1921 will be fruitful of changes beneficial to the district.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES T. DAVIES,

Surveyor and Inspector.



Housing & Town Planning Act.



The inspections made under the above Act during the past year have numbered 186, and this number has been thoroughly inspected and particulars noted and defects reported to the owners where any defects existed.

The records are kept in hand book form, and further entered up in a permanent larger general book of reference.

As the Council have not defined any district for a special inspection, what has been done covers various parts of the area as shown by the following table:—

Manchester Road East and side streets	...	46 houses
Manchester Road West,	„ ...	59 „
Worsley Road	„ ...	38 „
Clegg's Lane	„ ...	43 „
		—
		186 „

During these inspections many defects have been found, but none sufficiently bad as to warrant a closing order being issued. A block of 23 belonging to one owner were found to be internally bad, but the new owner is now repairing as the rents come in, though he is not spending anything beyond his rents. Another block of six

good houses which had been allowed to get very bad were by consistent and insistent pressure on the owner, finally put into good repair. There are two blocks of houses in Clegg's Lane and Longshaw Street which were reported to you some time ago. You gave the owner time to do alterations, this time has not long gone by and no action has yet been taken to put the property right. I think a move should be made. Most of the other nuisances discovered have already been abated.

I am,

Yours obediently,

JAMES T. DAVIES,

Surveyor and Inspector.